



## water affairs

Department:  
Water and Environmental Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Reference: 2/1/5/1

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

### NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1408 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above-mentioned question asked by Mrs A T Lovemore (DA), is attached for your consideration, please.

  
DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE:

16.10.09

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED →

  
MS B P SONJICA, MP  
MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE:

25/10/2009

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1408

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 25 SEPTEMBER 2009  
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 18)

**1408. Mrs A T Lovemore (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:**

Whether her department has taken any action to ensure that water management institutions comply with section 145 of the National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998; if not, why not; if so, what action?

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**REPLY:**

Yes. My Department does take action to ensure that appropriate institutions comply with section 145 of the National Water Act (NWA).

Water management institutions that operate dams are monitored for compliance in terms of dam safety legislation (Chapter 12 of the NWA). Regulations are in place in terms of this Chapter that require the preparation of Emergency Preparedness Plans indicating how information about incidents at a dam needs to be shared with people living in downstream areas that could be affected. Compliance with the provisions of the NWA regarding dam safety is enforced through regular dam safety inspection reports. Any shortcomings that are identified in such reports are recorded by the Dam Safety office and monitored until addressed. Information regarding dam levels is made available to stakeholders on a continuous basis.

Similarly, water resource quality is monitored continuously. Information is made available through various channels including the website, status reports as well as appropriate press releases and directives when required.

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